



St Dallan's Primary School

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Dear Parents,

During the current situation which we find ourselves in, we rely now more than ever on technology to facilitate Home Learning for the children. We have worked very successfully with the Home Learning section of our website which has been an invaluable tool to provide work for the children as we are all forced to work from home. I would like to thank our website providers who worked with us at such short notice not only to create the section on Home Learning but also in developing it as a facility where the children can upload their finished work and teachers can comment on this also. In fact, our whole website has always been a great tool for communication but at the moment has become a vital part of school life.

It became apparent a few weeks ago that, in the long term, we are facing a very different situation regarding school life and DE realised that remote learning was still going to be a big part of school life even when all the schools reopen. With this future in mind, over the past few weeks, they have been providing training for all staff in schools in a number of DE approved packages. These packages of G Suite, Collaborate Ultra, Google Classroom, Office 365 to name but a few are packages which are DE approved and safe for our school community to use. Our school staff has been availing of this training over the past number of weeks and we are moving forward to introducing it to the school community.

With that in mind we are going to pilot Google Classroom with our Primary 6 and 7 children in the month of June. This will hopefully start to allow pupils and parents to become familiar with the workings of it before we roll it out to all of the school community. This is optional at the moment and we will still use the Home Learning section of the website as normal until everyone is comfortable with the new platforms for remote learning. We will provide you with help sheets, demonstration videos, etc. as we prepare for these changes.

In the next few weeks we will be in touch with Primary 6 and 7 to help to prepare them for the piloting of Google Classroom for those who wish to use it. In the meantime, it's important that pupils wishing to use Google Classroom has access to their C2K My School account. These log in details were provided to you by text in March, however if anyone needs their details resent please send an email to the school and these will be provided.

The school's email address is info@stdallans.warrenpoint.ni.sch.uk

Thank you so much for your support and understanding during these difficult times and we look forward to a new norm in the not so distant future.

U Farrell